

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02460 150104Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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O 150104Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2025
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02460

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE
SUBJECT: UNIFIL: KUWAITI CONCERN OVER HADDAD

1. FOLLOWING SC CONSULTATIONS ON CYPRUS JUNE 14, KUWAITI
AMB BISHARA TOOK AMB LEONARD ASIDE TO EXPRESS SERIOUS
CONCERN OVER ROLE OF HADDAD AND HIS FORCES IN SOUTH
LEBANON. HIGHLY AGITATED, HE POINTED OUT THAT "WE HAVE
EXERCISED MAXIMUM PRESSURE ON ARAFAT AND PALESTINIANS"
TO COOPERATE WITH UNIFIL. NOW IT APPEARED THAT HADDAD
WAS TO BE "REHABILITATED". UN, HE EMPHASIZED, SHOULD
NOT BE PARTY TO THIS. HE FEARED PALESTINIANS WHOM
ARAFAT HAS TRIED TO CONTROL WOULD REACT VERY BADLY TO
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PAGE 02 USUN N 02460 150104Z

THIS DEVELOPMENT. HE EXPRESSED GREAT WORRY OVER SITUA-
TION AND ASKED RHETORICALLY WHY IDF IN WITHDRAWING
HAD HANDED CONTROL OVER TO HADDAD INSTEAD OF UNIFIL.

2. LEONARD AGREED ISRAELIS SHOULD HAVE HANDED OVER TO
UN AND NOTED THAT USG HAD ALREADY MADE OUR VIEWS ON
SITUATION CLEAR TO ISRAELIS, IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON

AND THROUGH EMBASSY TEL AVIV. HE SAID ISRAELI RESPONSE TO HIM HAD BEEN ALLEGATION, WHICH US DOES NOT ACCEPT, THAT UN IS "CONSPIRING" WITH PLO TO LET PALESTINIANS COME BACK INTO SOUTH. NOTING THAT US SHARED HIS CONCERN OVER POTENTIAL DIFFICULTIES FOR UNIFIL IN CURRENT SITUATION, LEONARD COUNSELLED BISHARA TO WATCH DEVELOPMENTS. HE POINTED OUT THAT UN HAD NOT SOUGHT SOLUTIONS THROUGH USE OF FORCE WITH PALESTINIANS IN TYRE OR WITH POCKETS OF INFILTRATORS BUT HAD NEGOTIATED. THE UN WOULD HAVE TO DEAL WITH THIS SITUATION IN SAME WAY. THE IMPORTANT THING WAS THAT THE ISRAELIS WERE NOW OUT OF LEBANON. NOW IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO WORK OUT WITH THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT THE MEANS FOR RE-ESTABLISHING ITS AUTHORITY IN THE SOUTH AND HANDLING HADDAD.

3. BISHARA EMPHASIZED THAT "LEGALIZATION AND REHABILITATION OF TRAITOR" HADDAD WAS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE AND AN "INVITATION TO CHAOS". HE LAMENTED DIVISIONS WITHIN GOL, WHICH HE THOUGHT SHOULD "FREEZE" HADDAD OUT.

4. LEONARD SAID BISHARA WAS RIGHT TO BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON GOL TO ASSUME ITS RESPONSIBILITIES IN SOUTH. HE NOTED THAT LEBANESE HAD INDICATED PLANS TO SEND LOYAL TROOPS TO SOUTH SOON, BUT THAT IN MEANTIME SITUATION HAD TO BE DEALT WITH STEP BY STEP. PROBABLY THE
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PAGE 03 USUN N 02460 150104Z

BEST WAY TO CONTROL HADDAD FOR PRESENT, HE POINTED OUT, WAS TO PLACE HIM UNDER THE ORDERS OF LEBANESE ARMY. BISHARA WAS ONLY SLIGHTLY REASSURED AT CLOSE OF CONVERSATION AND REITERATED HIS DEEP CONCERN OVER WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN IN SOUTHERN LEBANON IN COMING DAYS. LEONARD

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